

**Executive Summary**  
**SPOUSAL/PARTNER ABUSE: ASSESSMENT,  
 DETECTION AND INTERVENTION**

**Course Description**

This course provides training on the assessment of risk factors in spousal/partner abuse, analysis of different forms of abuse, cycle of violence and the legal issues involved. It discusses the psychological responses of victims/survivors of abuse as well as intervention strategies in working with both the abusers and the victims. It also provides insights on the abuse dynamics in gay and lesbian couples, cultural issues in the understanding of spousal/partner abuse and the impact of domestic violence on children.

Format of the training will include use of film clips to illustrate abuse dynamics, small group discussions of case vignettes and lectures.

**Target Audience**

This class was designed for social service professionals, mental health clinicians, child welfare workers, and other professionals who are interested in working with families, children, survivors/victims of spousal/partner abuse.

**Outcomes Objectives**

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Identify risk factors for spousal/partner abuse in both heterosexual and gay/lesbian relationships.
2. Detect and assess various forms of spousal and partner abuse.
3. Develop intervention strategies in working with both abusers and victims/survivors of abuse.
4. Identify cultural variations in abusive behaviors and relationships
5. Work with differing cultural perceptions of spousal/partner abuse
6. Identify and work through the institutional and cultural barriers that might impede the accurate assessment and effective intervention with spousal/partner abuse in minority and immigrant populations.
7. Evaluate and identify the hidden problem of woman spousal/partner abusers.
8. Utilize legal and community resources in working with both abusers and victims/survivors of abuse.

**Ways That Supervisors Can Support the Transfer of Learning**

**BEFORE** the training, trainee supervisors/managers are asked to:

1. Review the executive summary with staff members.
2. Identify with them some issues and concerns on this subject commonly encountered in their work.

**AFTER** the training, trainee supervisors/managers are asked to:

1. Meet with the participants and help them to review the information and insights gained from the training.
2. Identify cases in which concepts from the training can be applied.
3. Discuss further training needs in this area for their departments.